

LIVESTOCK

MEAT

WOOL

Market News

WEEKLY SUMMARY AND STATISTICS

LIVESTOCK DIVISION, AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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March 8, 1960

Week ended March 5

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Livestock Market Reviews | 182 |
| Livestock Market Receipts (with monthly totals) | 185 |
| Steer Sale Statistics (with monthly totals) | 186 |
| Heifer Sale Statistics (with monthly totals) | 188 |
| Stocker and Feeder Statistics | 189 |
| Estimated Percentage of Feeder and Stocker Cattle and Slaughter Cows in Salable Receipts | 189 |
| Slaughter at Major Centers | 190 |
| Estimated Slaughter and Meat Production | 190 |
| Cattle Prices (with monthly averages) | 191 |
| Hog Prices | 193 |
| Hog Purchase Statistics (with monthly totals) | 194 |
| Sheep and Lamb Prices | 198 |
| Wholesale Meat Trade Reviews | 196 |
| Wholesale Meat Prices | 197 |
| Wool Market Review | 198 |
| Special to this issue ----- | |
| Meat and Meat Food Products Inspected When Offered for Importation, January 1960 | 199 |
| The Livestock and Meat Situation, March 1960 | 200 |

MIDWEST LIVESTOCK REVIEW and RANGE AND FEEDLOT SALES

Prices advanced on most livestock over the Corn Belt area. The second week of moderate receipts along with generally higher dressed meat prices influenced the higher trends in the live trading. Slaughter steers closed 25¢-\$1.00 higher for the week at most midwest centers with heifers steady to 50¢ up. Barrows and gilts generally sold 50¢-\$1.00 higher. Price trends on slaughter lambs varied from strong to \$1.50 higher but most sales were 50¢-\$1.00 up.

SLAUGHTER CATTLE AND CALVES - The 12 market receipts were increased by 5 percent as compared with the sharply curtailed receipts of a week earlier. Bulk of the increase came on Monday and supplies were very moderate the remainder of the week. Price declines were recorded at several points Monday. However, reduced receipts the remainder of the week together with higher price trends on carcass steer and heifer beef contributed toward a very bullish trade on the remaining market sessions and with the exception of Kansas City the early decline was more than recovered. Steers weighing over 1250# were in good demand, and continued price advances on these heavier weights narrowed the price spread between weight groups to the smallest in some time. Steers sold steady to \$1.25 higher with advances of 25¢-\$1.00 rather general although sales at Kansas City were steady to 25¢ lower on both steers and heifers. Heifers were generally steady to 50¢ higher. Cows sold 25-50¢ higher over most of the area. Bulls and vealers closed steady to \$1.00 higher with the exception at St. Louis National Stock Yards where vealers sold \$1.00-2.00 lower.

Prime 1200-1365# slaughter steers brought \$30.00-\$31.25 in Chicago with a load Prime 1325# \$32.50, mixed Choice and Prime \$28.75-30.50, bulk Choice \$26.50-29.00, Good \$23.50-26.75. High-Choice and Prime 1075-1350# steers elsewhere \$28.00-29.25 with Prime reaching \$29.50 at Sioux City and So. St. Paul, most Choice \$26.00-28.25, Good \$24.00-26.25. High-Choice and mixed Choice and Prime heifers at Chicago realized \$27.75-28.50, Choice \$26.00-27.75, Good \$22.50-25.00. At other midwest centers high-Choice heifers brought \$27.00-27.50, bulk Choice \$25.50-26.50, Good \$22.50-25.00. Utility and Commercial cows bulked at \$15.50-18.00, Cannors and Cutters \$13.00-17.00.

STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE AND CALVES - Stocker and feeder cattle and calves continued in good demand and the seasonally small to moderate numbers at midwest terminals moved readily at steady to strong prices, instances 50¢ higher. Although severe winter weather con-

tinued to grip much of the country, many ranchers and feeders apparently were of the opinion it would be better to cope with current bad weather problems and attempt to secure at least part of their spring requirements of stockers and feeders now rather than wait and chance added difficulties in securing desired numbers when the new grass season becomes an actuality. The intensified ahead of grass time demand for stockers not only was in evidence at terminal markets but also was reflected in increased activity in range contracting both for immediate and future deliveries. At the same time the recent upturns in slaughter cattle prices has influenced a materially more aggressive demand for feedlot replacements. Feeder buyers often were in active competition with packer buyers on two-way cattle and some steers already showing sufficient finish to grade high-Good and Choice in the beef were purchased for further feeding.

Good and Choice yearling stock steers sold from \$24.50-29.50, moderate number \$30.00-32.00, including 661# at \$31.00 and 550# at \$32.00. Medium and low-Good stockers ranged \$21.00-26.00. Good and Choice 800-1050# feeders bulked \$23.00-26.50, few 800# \$26.75. Choice 1151# steers carrying considerable finish sold for further feeding at \$26.50 but not many steers over 1000# exceeded \$25.00. Good and Choice yearling heifers brought \$22.00-28.00. Choice 744# feeders were included at \$24.00 while 563# stock heifers brought \$28.00. Good and Choice stock steer calves sold chiefly from \$26.00-32.00, same grades heifer calves \$23.50-29.00. Medium and Good stock cows realized \$15.00-19.00.

HOGS - Terminal Markets - Marketings at the 12 terminals were reduced about 5 percent from the previous week and around 11 percent from the same week a year ago. The volume of receipts which was the smallest for any week since July was curtailed at times by severe late winter storms in a large segment of the Corn Belt. Mixed U. S. No. 1-3 190-250# barrows and gilts comprised the bulk of receipts. Reduced receipts coupled with steady to higher wholesale pork prices influenced another upturn in live prices. With few exceptions price trends on hogs have been higher since the first of the year and current hog prices are around \$3.50 above early January levels. Compared with the previous week's close butchers and sows closed steady to \$1.25 higher, largely 50¢-\$1.00 up. The greatest upturns generally prevailed at western Corn Belt centers.

On Friday, mixed U. S. No. 1-3 180-260# barrows and gilts sold at \$14.75-15.75, mainly \$15.00-15.50. Selected lots of No. 1, and No. 1-2, weighing 190-230# \$15.25-16.00. Mixed No. 1, 2 and 3, 270-600# sows bulked at \$12.25-14.00, up to \$14.25 at Omaha. The supply of sows included very few weighing under 350#.

Feeder pig prices advanced 50¢ at So. St. Paul and \$1.00 at Sioux City. Good and Choice, mostly Good, 100-160# feeder pigs at So. St. Paul sold at \$12.00-13.00, while at Sioux City Medium and Good 130-160# offerings brought \$12.00-13.00.

HOGS - Interior Iowa-Southern Minnesota Area - Supplies were approximately 14 percent less than the corresponding period last week, but around 15 percent larger than a year ago when a heavy snow-storm sharply curtailed receipts. Demand was good throughout the week and particularly at the close. Prices reflected strength each day and closing sales compared with the previous Friday were \$1.00 higher on both butchers and sows. At the close, mixed U. S. No. 1-3 190-240# barrows and gilts sold at \$14.20-15.00 with limited No. 1 and 2 selected lots 200-230# \$15.00-15.25, instances \$15.50. No. 1-3 270-400# sows brought \$12.50-13.75, 400-550# \$11.00-12.50.

SHEEP AND LAMBS - Receipts at the 12 markets were little different from the previous week but were 18 percent less than a year ago. Sharply higher wholesale dressed lamb prices stimulated demand for moderate supplies of slaughter lambs and prices advanced. For the week, slaughter lambs ranged from strong to \$1.50 higher, bulk 50¢-\$1.00 up. Slaughter ewes and feeder lambs were steady to 50¢ higher, instances \$1.00 up on feeders.

Choice and Prime 90-112# woolled slaughter lambs closed from \$22.00-22.50 with several loads of 95-111# to \$23.00 at Chicago; Choice and Prime 110-121# \$21.00-22.00. Mostly Choice 90-115# woolled lambs sold from \$20.50-22.00 with the bulk \$21.00-22.00. Few sales of Good and Choice 90-115# lambs \$20.00-21.00. Choice and Prime 95-115# shorn slaughter lambs with No. 1 and Fall shorn pelts \$20.50-21.50; Choice 85-115# \$19.50-21.00, largely \$20.00 up. A limited showing of Good and Choice shorn lambs brought \$19.00-20.00. Cull to Choice woolled slaughter ewes sold from \$3.00-8.00, largely \$4.50-7.50. Good and Choice 69-94# woolled feeder lambs sold from \$19.50-21.00 with some sales to \$21.50.

In the Interior Iowa-So. Minnesota area demand was good and prices on slaughter lambs were 50¢ to \$1.00 higher. On Friday, bulk Choice 90-105# woolled slaughter lambs delivered to packing plants sold from \$21.00-21.50; Choice and Prime \$21.50-22.25 and to \$22.50 in parts of southern Minnesota. Limited show-

ing of Good to low-Choice 85-105# woolled lambs \$20.00-21.00. Choice 90-100# lambs with No. 1 and fall shorn pelts moved from \$20.00-20.50; Choice and Prime \$20.50-21.00. Most Cull to Choice woolled slaughter ewes sold from \$3.00-5.00.

RANGE AND FEEDLOT SALES

Note: Shrink on most range and feedlot sales none to 5 percent, mostly 4 percent f.o.b. some with short haul and 3 percent shrink. All sales for immediate delivery unless specified.

ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, NEVADA, AND UTAH - Direct trading on slaughter steers and heifers fairly active with prices firm to 50¢ higher; stocker and feeder cattle and calves steady to strong; slaughter lambs steady to weak. Slaughter steers: In California, 6 loads Choice 975-1060# \$27.50-27.75. In California and Arizona, 258 loads Good to mostly Choice 950-1150# \$25.75-27.50; 20 loads average to high-Choice 1200-1350# \$25.50-26.50; 143 loads Good and Choice 900-1150# \$25.00-26.00; 114 loads mainly Good 900-1200# \$23.50-25.00; 51 loads 800-1050#, Good with Standard end \$23.00-24.00; 55 loads Standard 800-1050# \$21.00-23.00. Slaughter heifers: In California, 27 loads Choice 800-950# \$26.00-26.25. In the two states, 85 loads Good to mostly Choice 800-1000# \$24.50-24.75, 10 loads \$25.00 in Arizona for April-June delivery; 16 loads mostly Good 775-850# \$23.40-24.50.

Good and Choice 600-950# stocker and feeder steers \$24.00-25.25, mostly \$24.50-25.00; Good and Choice 550-600# stock steers \$25.00-26.50, heifers \$24.50-26.00. Medium and Good 550-825# steers \$22.00-24.00. Good and Choice 370-480# stock calves, steers \$27.00-29.00, heifers mainly \$26.00.

In California and Arizona, 21 loads Choice and mixed Choice and Prime 105-119# slaughter lambs with No. 1 and 2 pelts \$20.25-21.00. Utah - 4 loads mostly Choice 100-106# woolled slaughter lambs \$21.25. In central California, 2 loads Choice and Prime 95-98# spring slaughter lambs \$23.00.

COLORADO, SOUTHERN WYOMING, WESTERN NEBRASKA, AND WESTERN KANSAS - Trading slow on fed cattle direct at feedlots in Colorado. Fed steers sold steady to 50¢ higher, with weights over 1250# showing the most advance. Fed heifers sold mainly steady, some sales 25¢ lower. Eighty-one loads mostly Choice 1100-1350# fed steers \$25.75-27.00; 20 loads high-Good to average-Choice 1100-1250# \$25.25-25.75. Twenty-four loads low to average-Choice 825-950# fed heifers \$26.15-26.60; 62 loads high-Good to average-Choice 883-1050# \$25.00-26.00, bulk \$25.50-26.00. In Wyoming 6 loads 1030-1150# average to

high-Choice fed heifers carrying a small end of Prime \$26.25-26.50.

Demand for stocker and feeder cattle and calves good, most sales and contracts made at strong prices. Western Kansas: 20 loads Good and Choice 525-740# feeder steers \$25.50-27.00; 5 loads same grades 806-934# \$22.75-23.75. Thirty-one loads Good and Choice 544-674# feeder heifers \$24.00-26.50, 3 loads partly fattened 900# \$23.40. Colorado: short 2 loads Good and Choice 700-835# feeder heifers \$24.25. Nine loads Good and Choice short yearling steers to weigh 550# when delivered early May \$27.25. Load of aged Medium stock cows \$177.50 per head. Southwestern Wyoming: 130 Good and Choice 448# steer calves \$30.00.

Demand good for slaughter lambs with prices 75¢ higher. Colorado: 34 loads Choice and Prime 108-118# woolled slaughter lambs \$21.25-21.75, latter price late in the week. Two loads 90# Good and Choice woolled feeder lambs \$20.50. Three to four cars lambs wool 43-45¢ per pound, grease basis.

NEW MEXICO, WEST TEXAS, WESTERN OKLAHOMA, SOUTHWESTERN KANSAS - Clovis Area - Direct trade fairly active. Slaughter steers and heifers fully 50¢ higher; stockers and feeders 50¢-\$1.00 up. Thirty-nine loads low-Choice to average-Choice 986-1200# fed steers \$25.50-26.00; 25 loads mostly Good 925-1150# \$23.50-25.00. Twenty loads Good to low-Choice 725-940# fed heifers \$24.25-25.00; 2 loads Standard and Good 725-775# \$23.50. Four loads Standard and Good 777# mixed steer and heifer yearlings \$23.50; load 503# Standard and Good slaughter calves \$23.00. Over 4,200 Good and Choice 600-900# stocker and feeder steers \$23.50-26.00, 1,000 Medium 600-750# \$22.00-23.00. Around 1,800 Good and Choice 575-690# stock heifers \$23.00-26.00. Good and Choice stock calves \$28.00-32.00 on steers and \$26.00-29.00 for heifers. Two loads Medium cows with calves \$235.00 per pair.

Amarillo Area - Active, steady to strong on all classes. Good and Choice 850-1250# fed steers \$23.75-26.00, Standard and Good 850-1000# \$22.25-23.50, few Utility and Standard 1000# \$21.25. Good and Choice 880-1000# fed heifers \$24.00-25.25, 8 loads Standard and Good 800# \$23.25. Good and Choice stocker and feeder steers \$23.00-27.00, Medium and Good \$21.75-22.50. Good and Choice stocker and feeder heifers \$23.00-26.00. Good and Choice stock steer calves \$28.00-31.90, heifers \$26.00-29.50. Five loads Good cows, some with calves, \$250.00 per head with calves included.

IDAHO, OREGON AND WASHINGTON - Slaughter steer prices advanced 50¢-\$1.00, instances \$1.50 in Idaho, heifers sold fully steady; stocker and feeder cattle and calves strong to \$1.00 higher; slaughter lambs 75¢-\$1.00 higher.

Slaughter steers - Washington - Choice 900-1000# \$27.00 for March and April delivery and \$26.00 for June; Choice 1000-1250# \$25.50-26.50 for current delivery. Idaho - Choice 1050-1225# \$24.75-26.00, few \$27.00; Good and Choice 1075-1175# \$24.50-24.75. Good and Choice 825-950# fed heifers \$23.50-24.00 over the area.

In Washington, Good and Choice 675# feeder steers \$26.00, heifers \$25.00; Good 500# stock calves, steers \$27.00 and heifers \$24.00; Good and Choice 425-430# heifer calves \$26.00. Idaho - Good and Choice 900-1050# feeder steers \$24.50-25.00. Oregon - Good and Choice 640-950# feeder steers \$23.80-24.00; Good and Choice 450-500# steer calves \$30.00; Good stock cows \$190.00 each, some with calves at side.

Choice 90-110# shorn and woolled slaughter lambs \$21.00-22.00 in the three states.

MONTANA, NORTHERN WYOMING AND WESTERN DAKOTAS - Temperatures ranging around 20-30 degrees below zero practically halted direct country trade on cattle and calves. Demand was good, however, particularly for thin stock calves which are relatively scarce and the few confirmed sales were made at firm prices. Montana - 189 Good and Choice 477# stock steer calves \$28.00, 203 same grades 449# heifer calves \$25.00. String of 1,500 Medium to mostly Good feeder steers of Mexican origin, expected to weigh 700# \$20.00 for September delivery.

Demand continues broad on slaughter and shearing lambs with prices 50¢-\$1.00 higher. Around 6 loads mostly Choice and Prime 100-119# woolled slaughter lambs in eastern Montana \$19.00-20.25; 3 loads Good and Choice 95# shearing lambs \$20.00.

Northern Wyoming, small lots mixed grades 1960 shorn ewes wool totaling around 4000# 38-42¢ per grease pound.

WEEKLY RECEIPTS OF SALABLE LIVESTOCK AT 12 PUBLIC MARKETS

| Market | Cattle | | Calves | | Hogs | | Sheep and lambs | |
|---------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 |
| | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 |
| Chicago | 38,875 | 42,546 | 214 | 232 | 34,302 | 37,049 | 6,395 | 7,708 |
| Cincinnati | 3,306 | 3,021 | 558 | 591 | 11,184 | 12,600 | 559 | 532 |
| Denver | 10,513 | 9,345 | 257 | 312 | 4,360 | 2,813 | 25,022 | 28,457 |
| Fort Worth | 2,784 | 7,797 | 735 | 1,999 | 1,788 | 2,748 | 5,364 | 8,740 |
| Indianapolis | 5,979 | 5,665 | 431 | 352 | 29,630 | 37,031 | 1,645 | 1,507 |
| Kansas City | 19,081 | 15,264 | 676 | 562 | 14,405 | 14,951 | 6,976 | 9,236 |
| Oklahoma City | 5,090 | 11,102 | 257 | 606 | 2,384 | 3,566 | 925 | 1,841 |
| Omaha | 36,293 | 34,369 | 322 | 477 | 40,928 | 38,999 | 11,153 | 15,343 |
| St. Joseph | 15,500 | 13,876 | 530 | 494 | 23,186 | 25,161 | 6,404 | 6,050 |
| St. Louis NSY | 12,699 | 13,888 | 1,763 | 1,660 | 58,641 | 62,824 | 3,529 | 4,660 |
| Sioux City | 25,729 | 27,967 | 1,121 | 796 | 31,160 | 40,092 | 7,698 | 9,960 |
| S. St. Paul | 19,199 | 18,935 | 6,941 | 6,652 | 49,209 | 59,375 | 9,290 | 9,824 |
| Total | 195,048 | 203,775 | 13,805 | 14,733 | 301,177 | 337,209 | 84,960 | 103,858 |
| Feb. 27, 1960 | 186,585 | | 15,211 | | 316,536 | | 85,797 | |

INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

Mar. 5, 1960 Feb. 27, 1960 Mar. 7, 1959

| | | | |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Hogs | 354,000 | 410,000 | 309,000 |
| Sheep | 25,100 | 29,800 | 24,100 |

RECEIPTS, SALABLE AND TOTAL OF LIVESTOCK AT 12 PUBLIC MARKETS

MONTH OF FEBRUARY

| Market | Cattle | | Calves | | Hogs | | Sheep and lambs | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| | Salable | Total | Salable | Total | Salable | Total | Salable | Total |
| | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 |
| Chicago | 182,052 | 161,152 | 193,507 | 169,939 | 803 | 1,274 | 803 | 1,274 |
| Cincinnati | 13,966 | 11,842 | 18,773 | 14,046 | 2,057 | 2,582 | 2,078 | 2,688 |
| Denver | 40,742 | 37,535 | 49,846 | 46,868 | 1,215 | 1,346 | 1,621 | 2,790 |
| Fort Worth | 21,394 | 16,408 | 29,083 | 23,529 | 7,288 | 4,328 | 11,165 | 6,687 |
| Indianapolis .. | 30,138 | 26,463 | 31,033 | 26,673 | 2,070 | 2,160 | 2,095 | 2,160 |
| Kansas City ... | 84,868 | 66,953 | 100,726 | 81,921 | 2,541 | 3,597 | 4,784 | 6,873 |
| Oklahoma City . | 27,812 | 37,119 | 30,699 | 40,920 | 2,317 | 2,025 | 2,334 | 2,149 |
| Omaha | 157,183 | 133,628 | 163,213 | 137,833 | 1,374 | 2,271 | 1,502 | 2,274 |
| St. Joseph | 65,445 | 52,105 | 69,369 | 53,692 | 1,614 | 1,912 | 1,618 | 1,977 |
| St. Louis NSY . | 59,935 | 47,990 | 62,188 | 51,519 | 8,125 | 7,586 | 8,342 | 7,686 |
| Sioux City | 116,307 | 100,500 | 122,557 | 104,321 | 4,580 | 4,482 | 4,875 | 4,714 |
| S. St. Paul ... | 82,665 | 71,464 | 89,260 | 74,981 | 34,021 | 32,334 | 36,279 | 35,221 |
| Total | 882,507 | 763,159 | 960,254 | 826,242 | 68,005 | 65,897 | 77,496 | 76,493 |
| ===== | | | | | | | | |
| Market | Hogs | | Sheep and Lambs | | Hogs | | Sheep and Lambs | |
| | Salable | Total | Salable | Total | Salable | Total | Salable | Total |
| | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 |
| Chicago | 152,818 | 180,461 | 158,142 | 215,234 | 38,706 | 48,066 | 45,091 | 54,098 |
| Cincinnati | 55,543 | 56,497 | 69,703 | 65,804 | 2,376 | 2,689 | 2,456 | 3,113 |
| Denver | 22,531 | 11,227 | 57,362 | 38,276 | 91,326 | 105,214 | 129,200 | 133,785 |
| Fort Worth | 10,676 | 9,684 | 28,914 | 44,001 | 33,917 | 39,808 | 53,975 | 55,048 |
| Indianapolis .. | 158,106 | 174,772 | 158,918 | 174,906 | 9,970 | 11,935 | 10,026 | 11,935 |
| Kansas City ... | 66,977 | 60,350 | 73,168 | 63,159 | 18,362 | 29,593 | 40,729 | 55,477 |
| Oklahoma City . | 13,632 | 12,253 | 36,591 | 35,593 | 5,998 | 6,192 | 5,998 | 6,192 |
| Omaha | 194,157 | 186,542 | 278,130 | 280,252 | 62,168 | 61,576 | 77,488 | 75,728 |
| St. Joseph | 106,290 | 104,832 | 156,472 | 130,295 | 24,001 | 32,113 | 43,186 | 49,174 |
| St. Louis NSY . | 266,623 | 245,604 | 273,536 | 261,680 | 20,068 | 15,781 | 20,317 | 18,828 |
| Sioux City | 157,994 | 173,674 | 190,688 | 198,293 | 48,067 | 36,612 | 53,980 | 37,448 |
| S. St. Paul ... | 244,816 | 244,814 | 279,672 | 284,210 | 52,663 | 43,892 | 76,022 | 61,901 |
| Total | 1,450,163 | 1,460,710 | 1,761,296 | 1,791,703 | 407,622 | 433,471 | 558,468 | 562,727 |

INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

| | Hogs | Sheep |
|---------------------|-----------|---------|
| February 1960 | 1,579,000 | 108,100 |
| February 1959 | 1,609,000 | 101,200 |

STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER 1/

| Grade | Number of head | | Percent of total by grades | | Average weight (pounds) | | Average price in dollars per 100 lb. | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|---|----------------|
| | Week ended | | | | | | | |
| | Mar. 3 1960 | Mar. 5 1959 | Mar. 3 1960 | Mar. 5 1959 | Mar. 3 1960 | Mar. 5 1959 | Mar. 3 1960 | Mar. 5 1959 |
| CHICAGO | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 2,856 | 1,765 | 10.2 | 5.8 | 1,271 | 1,274 | 29.73 | 30.84 |
| Choice..... | 14,444 | 15,386 | 51.4 | 50.3 | 1,200 | 1,216 | 27.61 | 28.26 |
| Good..... | 9,590 | 10,665 | 34.1 | 34.8 | 1,120 | 1,145 | 25.82 | 26.61 |
| Standard..... | 1,106 | 2,334 | 3.9 | 7.6 | 1,031 | 1,043 | 22.81 | 24.89 |
| Commercial..... | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Utility..... | 124 | 460 | .4 | 1.5 | 1,080 | 1,047 | 19.21 | 22.62 |
| All grades..... | 28,120 | 30,610 | | | 1,173 | 1,179 | 27.06 | 27.56 |
| OMAHA | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 136 | 119 | .8 | .7 | 1,175 | 1,150 | 28.34 | 29.45 |
| Choice..... | 6,511 | 5,893 | 36.1 | 33.6 | 1,192 | 1,215 | 26.36 | 27.03 |
| Good..... | 10,137 | 10,719 | 56.3 | 61.2 | 1,116 | 1,140 | 24.69 | 25.66 |
| Standard..... | 1,104 | 639 | 6.1 | 3.6 | 1,085 | 1,121 | 20.61 | 22.84 |
| Utility..... | 126 | 160 | .7 | .9 | 1,044 | 1,117 | 18.44 | 21.22 |
| All grades..... | 18,014 | 17,530 | | | 1,141 | 1,164 | 25.07 | 26.03 |
| SIOUX CITY | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 97 | 129 | .9 | 1.0 | 1,295 | 1,229 | 28.16 | 29.16 |
| Choice..... | 4,445 | 3,845 | 43.1 | 30.2 | 1,173 | 1,184 | 26.89 | 27.11 |
| Good..... | 5,427 | 8,204 | 52.6 | 64.5 | 1,114 | 1,158 | 25.26 | 25.67 |
| Standard..... | 286 | 273 | 2.8 | 2.2 | 1,098 | 1,080 | 20.66 | 23.29 |
| Utility..... | 65 | 267 | .6 | 2.1 | 985 | 1,086 | 18.52 | 21.97 |
| All grades..... | 10,320 | 12,718 | | | 1,140 | 1,163 | 25.86 | 26.03 |
| KANSAS CITY | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 10 | -- | .1 | -- | 1,114 | -- | 27.75 | -- |
| Choice..... | 2,845 | 1,311 | 36.2 | 24.7 | 1,138 | 1,254 | 26.12 | 27.40 |
| Good..... | 3,845 | 3,039 | 48.9 | 57.4 | 1,101 | 1,109 | 24.69 | 25.71 |
| Standard..... | 1,117 | 878 | 14.2 | 16.6 | 1,058 | 1,046 | 21.87 | 24.14 |
| Commercial..... | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Utility..... | 50 | 69 | .6 | 1.3 | 1,092 | 1,045 | 18.91 | 21.78 |
| All grades..... | 7,867 | 5,297 | | | 1,108 | 1,134 | 24.80 | 25.89 |
| ST. LOUIS NSY | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | -- | 16 | -- | .3 | -- | 1,109 | -- | 29.50 |
| Choice..... | 1,004 | 855 | 18.5 | 15.7 | 1,083 | 1,105 | 26.44 | 27.33 |
| Good..... | 2,912 | 3,608 | 53.7 | 66.4 | 1,031 | 1,078 | 24.60 | 25.73 |
| Standard..... | 1,437 | 808 | 26.5 | 14.9 | 981 | 1,013 | 21.80 | 23.69 |
| Commercial..... | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Utility..... | 71 | 146 | 1.3 | 2.7 | 840 | 970 | 18.61 | 21.38 |
| All grades..... | 5,424 | 5,433 | | | 1,025 | 1,070 | 24.19 | 25.61 |
| S. ST. JOSEPH | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice..... | 3,218 | 1,671 | 38.4 | 26.4 | 1,130 | 1,160 | 26.04 | 27.09 |
| Good..... | 4,629 | 4,114 | 55.2 | 65.1 | 1,082 | 1,095 | 24.39 | 25.54 |
| Standard..... | 523 | 490 | 6.2 | 7.8 | 1,052 | 1,051 | 20.33 | 23.11 |
| Utility..... | 12 | 44 | .2 | .7 | 1,033 | 972 | 18.00 | 20.95 |
| All grades..... | 8,382 | 6,319 | | | 1,098 | 1,108 | 24.79 | 25.76 |
| DENVER | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice..... | 1,756 | 1,444 | 50.3 | 47.3 | 1,177 | 1,218 | 26.01 | 26.86 |
| Good..... | 1,554 | 1,600 | 44.6 | 52.4 | 1,096 | 1,143 | 24.95 | 25.77 |
| Standard..... | 119 | 9 | 3.4 | .3 | 1,058 | 1,124 | 19.34 | 21.76 |
| Utility..... | 58 | -- | 1.7 | -- | 966 | -- | 17.77 | -- |
| All grades..... | 3,487 | 3,053 | | | 1,134 | 1,178 | 25.22 | 26.29 |

1/ Data collected by Agricultural Estimates, and Livestock Divisions, A.M.S.

STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER 1/

| Grade | Number of head | | Percent of total by grades | | Average weight (pounds) | | Average price in dollars per 100 lb. | |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| | Month | | | | | | | |
| | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 |
| CHICAGO | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 15,226 | 11,018 | 11.5 | 10.2 | 1,249 | 1,251 | 28.47 | 30.65 |
| Choice..... | 81,618 | 59,723 | 61.7 | 55.4 | 1,196 | 1,209 | 26.69 | 27.85 |
| Good..... | 29,199 | 28,620 | 22.1 | 26.6 | 1,102 | 1,150 | 25.10 | 26.07 |
| Standard..... | 4,958 | 6,759 | 3.7 | 6.3 | 1,008 | 1,061 | 22.17 | 24.65 |
| Commercial..... | 197 | 423 | .2 | .4 | 1,560 | 1,448 | 21.22 | 23.99 |
| Utility..... | 1,017 | 1,146 | .8 | 1.1 | 1,046 | 981 | 18.87 | 22.10 |
| All grades..... | 132,215 | 107,689 | | | 1,174 | 1,187 | 26.37 | 27.44 |
| OMAHA | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 860 | 729 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1,153 | 1,231 | 27.48 | 29.26 |
| Choice..... | 29,981 | 24,172 | 37.6 | 39.4 | 1,187 | 1,232 | 25.64 | 26.53 |
| Good..... | 44,073 | 33,993 | 55.2 | 55.3 | 1,142 | 1,149 | 23.91 | 25.24 |
| Standard..... | 4,161 | 1,980 | 5.2 | 3.2 | 1,061 | 1,103 | 20.24 | 22.92 |
| Utility..... | 698 | 541 | .9 | .9 | 1,075 | 1,084 | 17.68 | 21.49 |
| All grades..... | 79,773 | 61,415 | | | 1,154 | 1,180 | 24.39 | 25.72 |
| SIOUX CITY | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 1,138 | 527 | 2.4 | 1.2 | 1,138 | 1,213 | 27.88 | 29.21 |
| Choice..... | 22,830 | 15,180 | 47.1 | 35.6 | 1,163 | 1,169 | 26.28 | 27.03 |
| Good..... | 22,400 | 24,542 | 46.4 | 57.6 | 1,130 | 1,162 | 24.51 | 25.30 |
| Standard..... | 1,378 | 1,663 | 2.8 | 3.9 | 1,119 | 1,084 | 20.46 | 23.21 |
| Utility..... | 615 | 709 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 1,060 | 1,071 | 17.93 | 21.64 |
| All grades..... | 48,361 | 42,621 | | | 1,145 | 1,161 | 25.25 | 25.84 |
| KANSAS CITY | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 17 | 11 | -- | -- | 1,054 | 1,160 | 27.84 | 29.00 |
| Choice..... | 15,750 | 4,588 | 45.1 | 18.4 | 1,150 | 1,176 | 25.15 | 26.43 |
| Good..... | 14,525 | 16,554 | 41.5 | 66.4 | 1,118 | 1,095 | 23.88 | 25.13 |
| Standard..... | 4,335 | 3,661 | 12.4 | 14.7 | 1,062 | 1,080 | 21.80 | 23.37 |
| Commercial..... | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Utility..... | 320 | 132 | 1.0 | .5 | 1,035 | 1,048 | 18.25 | 21.13 |
| All grades..... | 34,947 | 24,946 | | | 1,125 | 1,108 | 24.18 | 25.11 |
| ST. LOUIS NSY | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 11 | -- | -- | -- | 860 | -- | 27.82 | -- |
| Choice..... | 6,005 | 1,943 | 23.1 | 11.7 | 1,067 | 1,076 | 26.02 | 27.36 |
| Good..... | 14,633 | 10,394 | 56.3 | 62.3 | 1,059 | 1,072 | 24.20 | 25.80 |
| Standard..... | 4,856 | 3,686 | 18.7 | 22.1 | 1,003 | 1,047 | 21.31 | 24.20 |
| Commercial..... | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Utility..... | 506 | 650 | 1.9 | 3.9 | 910 | 925 | 18.35 | 21.92 |
| All grades..... | 26,011 | 16,673 | | | 1,047 | 1,061 | 24.02 | 25.50 |
| S. ST. JOSEPH | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | 20 | 25 | -- | .1 | 1,250 | 1,107 | 28.25 | 30.71 |
| Choice..... | 11,055 | 4,029 | 31.2 | 16.8 | 1,147 | 1,152 | 25.51 | 27.01 |
| Good..... | 20,986 | 16,832 | 59.2 | 70.1 | 1,107 | 1,113 | 23.77 | 25.37 |
| Standard..... | 3,267 | 2,904 | 9.2 | 12.1 | 1,071 | 1,053 | 20.46 | 23.45 |
| Utility..... | 148 | 226 | .4 | .9 | 985 | 1,000 | 17.12 | 21.38 |
| All grades..... | 35,476 | 24,016 | | | 1,115 | 1,111 | 24.01 | 25.41 |
| DENVER | | | | | | | | |
| Prime..... | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice..... | 5,603 | 5,765 | 50.0 | 43.8 | 1,200 | 1,233 | 25.47 | 26.59 |
| Good..... | 5,096 | 7,193 | 45.4 | 54.7 | 1,143 | 1,151 | 24.29 | 25.56 |
| Standard..... | 416 | 195 | 3.7 | 1.5 | 1,127 | 1,080 | 18.94 | 21.67 |
| Utility..... | 105 | -- | .9 | -- | 1,221 | -- | 17.76 | -- |
| All grades..... | 11,220 | 13,153 | | | 1,171 | 1,186 | 24.64 | 25.98 |

1/ Data collected by Agricultural Estimates, and Livestock Divisions, A.M.S.

STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER AT SEVEN MARKETS COMBINED 1/

| Grade | Number of head | | Percent of total by grades | | Average weight (pounds) | | Average price in dollars per 100 lb. | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 |
| Prime | 17,272 | 12,310 | 4.7 | 4.2 | 1,240 | 1,248 | 28.39 | 30.51 |
| Choice | 172,842 | 115,400 | 47.0 | 39.7 | 1,179 | 1,204 | 26.18 | 27.30 |
| Good | 150,912 | 138,128 | 41.0 | 47.6 | 1,117 | 1,135 | 24.25 | 25.49 |
| Standard .. | 23,371 | 20,848 | 6.3 | 7.2 | 1,044 | 1,067 | 21.16 | 23.87 |
| Com'l. | 197 | 423 | .1 | .1 | 1,561 | 1,447 | 21.22 | 23.99 |
| Utility ... | 3,409 | 3,404 | .9 | 1.2 | 1,036 | 1,009 | 18.20 | 21.78 |
| All grades | 368,003 | 290,513 | | | 1,147 | 1,161 | 25.16 | 26.32 |

HEIFERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER AT SEVEN MARKETS COMBINED 1/

| Grade | Number of head | | Percent of total by grades | | Average weight (pounds) | | Average price in dollars per 100 lb. | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 |
| Prime | 1,941 | 890 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1,028 | 1,055 | 27.48 | 28.76 |
| Choice | 51,487 | 31,922 | 41.1 | 33.9 | 957 | 969 | 25.81 | 26.92 |
| Good | 59,769 | 50,580 | 47.7 | 53.7 | 903 | 923 | 23.82 | 25.21 |
| Standard .. | 10,464 | 8,767 | 8.4 | 9.3 | 864 | 879 | 20.33 | 23.12 |
| Utility ... | 1,626 | 1,970 | 1.3 | 2.1 | 903 | 897 | 17.42 | 20.84 |
| All grades | 125,287 | 94,129 | | | 924 | 935 | 24.38 | 25.58 |

STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER AT 5 SPECIFIED MARKETS 1/

| Market | Number of head | | Average weight (pounds) | | Average prices in dollars per 100 lb. | |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | Jan. 1960 | Jan. 1959 | Jan. 1960 | Jan. 1959 | Jan. 1960 | Jan. 1959 |
| Cincinnati | 3,383 | 3,100 | 1,036 | 1,009 | 23.17 | 25.86 |
| Indianapolis | 15,206 | 14,918 | 1,068 | 1,035 | 24.67 | 26.46 |
| Fort Worth | 5,131 | 3,161 | 968 | 1,007 | 22.06 | 25.62 |
| Oklahoma City | 4,569 | 4,721 | 1,079 | 1,127 | 22.80 | 25.14 |
| Sioux Falls | 10,115 | 11,323 | 1,133 | 1,164 | 24.60 | 26.44 |
| | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 | Feb. 1960 | Feb. 1959 |
| Cincinnati | 3,895 | 3,761 | 1,032 | 1,012 | 24.09 | 25.77 |
| Indianapolis | 13,857 | 13,732 | 1,067 | 1,003 | 24.93 | 25.70 |
| Fort Worth | 3,712 | 2,223 | 968 | 984 | 22.86 | 25.52 |
| Oklahoma City | 4,532 | 4,866 | 1,093 | 1,104 | 23.48 | 25.22 |
| Sioux Falls | 7,996 | 6,745 | 1,145 | 1,161 | 24.87 | 25.72 |

1/ Data collected by Agricultural Estimates, and Livestock Division, A.M.S.

HEIFERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER AT 5 SPECIFIED MARKETS 1/

| Market | Number of head | | Average weight (pounds) | | Average price in dollars per 100 lb. | |
|---------------------|----------------|-------|----------------------------|------|--|-------|
| | | | Month | | | |
| | Jan. | Jan. | Jan. | Jan. | Jan. | Jan. |
| | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 |
| Cincinnati | 2,614 | 1,774 | 753 | 740 | 22.98 | 25.44 |
| Indianapolis | 3,633 | 2,831 | 855 | 841 | 23.72 | 25.79 |
| Fort Worth | 2,449 | 1,070 | 642 | 643 | 22.95 | 26.71 |
| Oklahoma City | 2,997 | 1,846 | 843 | 841 | 22.44 | 25.86 |
| Sioux Falls | 6,837 | 5,790 | 954 | 967 | 23.46 | 25.58 |
| Market | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. |
| | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 |
| Cincinnati | 2,601 | 2,003 | 766 | 747 | 24.04 | 25.14 |
| Indianapolis | 3,650 | 2,363 | 859 | 823 | 24.16 | 24.86 |
| Fort Worth | 1,494 | 1,132 | 652 | 654 | 23.95 | 26.35 |
| Oklahoma City | 2,125 | 1,790 | 823 | 819 | 23.06 | 25.75 |
| Sioux Falls | 6,053 | 4,784 | 955 | 956 | 23.83 | 24.54 |

1/ Data collected by Agricultural Estimates, and Livestock Division, A.M.S.

STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER

| | Week ended | | Month | | Two months | |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|------------|---------|
| | Mar. 3 | Feb. 25 | Mar. 5 | Feb. | Jan.-Feb. | |
| | 1960 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 |
| Steers - 1001# up | 666 | 638 | 665 | 2,708 | 5,671 | 5,329 |
| 901-1000 | 2,265 | 1,546 | 2,409 | 8,058 | 9,549 | 16,341 |
| 801-900 | 2,670 | 2,758 | 3,113 | 12,378 | 12,213 | 27,363 |
| 701-800 | 3,017 | 2,643 | 2,633 | 14,492 | 13,595 | 34,747 |
| 501-700 | 6,931 | 7,519 | 8,801 | 32,316 | 29,591 | 68,697 |
| Total steers 10 markets | 15,549 | 15,104 | 17,621 | 69,952 | 70,619 | 152,477 |
| Av. wts. " " " | 742# | 724# | 730# | 732# | 753# | 730# |
| Av. cost* " " " | \$24.73 | \$24.61 | \$26.47 | \$24.05 | \$26.48 | \$23.81 |
| " " " Chicago | 24.27 | 23.44 | 24.89 | 23.27 | 25.98 | 23.37 |
| " " " Kansas City | 24.82 | 24.43 | 26.48 | 23.80 | 25.97 | 23.53 |
| " " " Omaha | 23.46 | 24.72 | 26.93 | 23.88 | 26.61 | 23.78 |
| " " " S. St. Paul | 21.62 | 22.39 | 22.65 | 22.23 | 24.64 | 21.96 |
| " " " Sioux City | 26.56 | 25.98 | 28.41 | 25.52 | 28.39 | 25.25 |
| " " " Denver | 23.69 | 22.51 | 25.87 | 23.53 | 25.70 | 24.74 |
| " " " Ft. Worth | 24.16 | 25.16 | 28.62 | 23.75 | 27.44 | 23.29 |
| " " " Oklahoma City | 24.50 | 24.03 | 26.56 | 23.74 | 26.34 | 22.82 |
| " " " S. St. Joseph ... | 23.65 | 24.40 | 26.31 | 23.66 | 26.17 | 23.39 |
| " " " St. Louis NSY ... | 23.79 | 22.70 | 25.34 | 23.04 | 25.51 | 22.82 |
| Total calves - 10 markets | 4,339 | 4,374 | 5,860 | 31,380 | 26,127 | 85,972 |
| " heifers " " | 2,965 | 2,137 | 3,982 | 10,381 | 13,532 | 21,519 |
| " cows " " | 621 | 397 | 744 | 2,634 | 3,093 | 5,535 |

* Not adjusted for differences in grade of cattle sold at each market.

ESTIMATED PERCENT OF STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE AND SLAUGHTER COWS IN SALABLE RECEIPTS

| Week ended | Chicago | Kansas City | Omaha | S. St. Joseph | St. Louis NSY | Sioux City | S. St. Paul | Indianapolis | Denver | Ft. Worth | Okla. City | Wichita | San Antonio |
|----------------------|---------|-------------|-------|---------------|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------|-----------|------------|---------|-------------|
| Stockers and feeders | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mar. 4, 1960 | 2 | 33 | 8 | 14 | 4 | 24 | 5 | 8 | 8 | 50 | 44 | 41 | 50 |
| Feb. 26, 1960 | 2 | 37 | 9 | 9 | 5 | 25 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 65 | 61 | 30 | 50 |
| Mar. 6, 1959 | 2 | 41 | 11 | 16 | 4 | 17 | 5 | 4 | 10 | 35 | 72 | 53 | 45 |
| Slaughter cows | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mar. 4, 1960 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 30 | 9 | 15 | 10 | 6 | 18 | 20 |
| Feb. 26, 1960 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 28 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 10 | 11 | 25 |
| Mar. 6, 1959 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 25 | 14 | 12 | 15 | 9 | 12 | 15 |

WEEKLY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION AT MAJOR CENTERS

| City or Area | Cattle | | Calves | | Hogs | | Sheep and lambs | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|
| | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 |
| | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 |
| Boston, New York City Area... | 12,155 | 11,957 | 9,699 | 10,250 | 49,674 | 51,024 | 42,034 | 39,302 |
| Baltimore, Philadelphia..... | 7,821 | 7,539 | 2,015 | 653 | 23,522 | 34,729 | 5,720 | 3,919 |
| Cin., Cleve., Detroit, Indpls... | 17,657 | 16,218 | 3,737 | 4,156 | 133,361 | 121,345 | 15,244 | 15,547 |
| Chicago Area..... | 16,466 | 21,661 | 6,010 | 5,988 | 36,033 | 48,496 | 3,124 | 5,167 |
| St. Paul-Wisc. Areas..... | 29,147 | 25,545 | 22,449 | 24,700 | 129,225 | 119,047 | 15,644 | 15,238 |
| St. Louis Area..... | 10,727 | 10,112 | 1,492 | 1,718 | 81,920 | 100,899 | 4,062 | 4,483 |
| Sioux City-So. Dakota Area... | 21,612 | 19,764 | -- | -- | 90,788 | 99,089 | 14,812 | 18,993 |
| Omaha Area..... | 35,117 | 31,703 | 154 | 185 | 79,958 | 82,061 | 14,023 | 16,381 |
| Kansas City..... | 13,986 | 10,489 | -- | -- | 37,485 | 33,007 | -- | -- |
| Iowa - So. Minnesota..... | 30,023 | 26,941 | 9,431 | 7,839 | 286,755 | 256,639 | 29,812 | 29,219 |
| Lou'l.Evan'l.Nash'l.Mph's.... | 5,772 | 6,794 | 3,024 | 4,405 | 58,174 | 69,602 | -- | -- |
| Georgia, Florida, Ala. Area.. | 6,707 | 5,942 | 2,702 | 2,165 | 32,803 | 30,155 | -- | -- |
| St. Jo'ph.Wichita, Okla.City. | 18,882 | 16,955 | 659 | 1,018 | 45,819 | 46,914 | 8,172 | 9,965 |
| Ft.Worth,Dallas,San Antonio.. | 7,286 | 7,518 | 2,793 | 3,667 | 18,571 | 24,556 | 8,369 | 11,418 |
| Denver,Ogden,Salt Lake City.. | 19,645 | 17,356 | 214 | 350 | 17,789 | 14,156 | 29,901 | 39,598 |
| Los Angeles, San Fran. Areas. | 28,276 | 20,194 | 1,664 | 1,673 | 27,216 | 29,549 | 29,594 | 27,999 |
| Portland, Seattle, Spokane... | 7,058 | 6,390 | 239 | 216 | 16,575 | 17,164 | 3,685 | 4,251 |
| Total..... | 288,337 | 263,078 | 66,282 | 68,983 | 1,165,668 | 1,178,442 | 224,196 | 241,480 |
| Accumulation to date..... | 2,715,195 | | 626,229 | | 11,607,545 | | 2,269,078 | |
| | 2,435,540 | | | 637,013 | | 11,187,628 | | 2,273,692 |

ESTIMATED FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

| Week ended | Beef | | Veal | | Pork (excl. lard) | | Lamb and mutton | | Total meat prod. | Total lard prod. |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Num- ber | Prod. mil.lb. | Num- ber | Prod. mil.lb. | Num- ber | Prod. mil.lb. | Num- ber | Prod. mil.lb. | | |
| | 1,000 | | 1,000 | | 1,000 | | 1,000 | | | |
| Mar. 5, 1960 | 345 | 208.4 | 92 | 9.8 | 1,325 | 176.8 | 245 | 12.5 | 407.5 | -- |
| Feb. 27, 1960 | 315 | 189.3 | 95 | 10.7 | 1,280 | 170.8 | 230 | 11.7 | 382.5 | -- |
| Feb. 20, 1960 ^{1/} | 360 | -- | 91 | -- | 1,464 | -- | 265 | -- | -- | 44.9 |
| Mar. 7, 1959 ^{1/} | 315 | 191.6 | 94 | 10.0 | 1,345 | 180.6 | 280 | 13.9 | 396.1 | 47.5 |

Percentage change from:

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|---|----|
| Feb. 27, 1960 | 10 | 10 | -3 | -8 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 7 | -- |
| Mar. 7, 1959 | 10 | 9 | -2 | -2 | -1 | -2 | -2 | -10 | 3 | -- |

| Week ended | Average weight (lb.) | | | | Lard | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------|--------|---------|------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| | Cattle | | Calves | | Hogs | | Sheep and lambs | |
| | Live | Dressed | Live | Dressed | Live | Dressed | Live | Dressed |
| Mar. 5, 1960 | 1050 | 604 | 190 | 107 | 232 | 133 | 105 | 51 |
| Feb. 27, 1960 | 1055 | 601 | 200 | 113 | 230 | 133 | 105 | 51 |
| Feb. 20, 1960 | 1055 | 601 | 200 | 112 | 234 | 135 | 105 | 51 |
| Mar. 7, 1959 | 1066 | 608 | 190 | 106 | 235 | 134 | 105 | 50 |

^{1/} Actual slaughter. ^{2/} Excludes lard.

CATTLE: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS
In dollars per 100 pounds

| | | Chicago | | Kansas City | | Omaha | | Denver | | North Portland | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Classification | | Mar. 5 1960 | Mar. 7 1959 | Mar. 5 1960 | Mar. 7 1959 | Mar. 5 1960 | Mar. 7 1959 | Mar. 5 1960 | Mar. 7 1959 | Mar. 5 1960 | Mar. 7 1959 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 900-1100# | 29.80 | 31.10 | -- | -- | 29.00 | 30.12 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | 1100-1300 | 30.12 | 31.40 | - | -- | 28.85 | 30.00 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice | 900-1100 | 28.18 | 29.15 | 26.65 | 28.55 | 27.55 | 28.35 | 26.42 | 27.25 | 26.75 | 27.06 |
| | 1100-1300 | 28.05 | 29.05 | 26.55 | 28.10 | 27.40 | 28.00 | 26.28 | 27.00 | -- | 26.62 |
| Good | 900-1100 | 25.22 | 26.60 | 24.70 | 26.08 | 24.38 | 25.35 | 23.40 | 24.88 | 25.00 | 26.00 |
| Standard - All wts. | | 22.05 | 24.58 | 21.50 | 23.60 | 20.95 | 23.00 | 19.75 | 21.50 | 22.25 | 24.25 |
| Heifers - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice* | 700-900# | 27.02 | 27.90 | 25.98 | 27.68 | 26.68 | 27.35 | 25.70 | 26.52 | -- | -- |
| Good** | 600-800 | -- | 25.70 | 24.05 | 25.50 | 23.95 | 24.55 | 22.85 | 24.28 | 23.50 | 25.25 |
| Standard - All wts. | | 20.85 | 23.20 | 21.25 | 22.92 | 20.25 | 22.05 | 19.50 | 21.25 | 21.00 | 23.88 |
| Cows - All weights - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Commercial | | 16.82 | 19.80 | 17.50 | 19.10 | 17.15 | 18.65 | 18.05 | 20.00 | 18.00 | 20.50 |
| Utility | | 16.40 | 18.42 | 16.50 | 17.70 | 16.08 | 17.52 | 16.80 | 18.60 | 16.75 | 18.75 |
| Cutter | | 15.70) | | 15.50) | | 15.05) | | 15.60) | | 14.25) | |
| Canner | | 14.10) | 16.75 | 13.88) | 15.55 | 14.12) | 15.75 | 14.55) | 16.30 | 12.00) | 16.00 |
| Bulls - All weights - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Commercial | | 21.65 | 23.75 | 19.30 | 22.38 | 19.80 | 21.90 | -- | 22.50 | 20.75 | 22.75 |
| Utility | | 21.05 | 22.35 | 19.05 | 21.75 | 19.45 | 20.55 | 20.25 | 22.75 | 21.25 | 24.06 |
| Calves - 500# down - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice | | -- | -- | 27.00 | 26.50 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 28.50 | -- |
| Good | | -- | -- | 24.25 | 24.75 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 25.75 | 27.50 |
| Standard | | -- | -- | 21.00 | 22.75 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 22.50 | 25.00 |
| Vealers - All wts. - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice | | 32.40 | -- | 29.00 | 31.70 | 26.60 | 31.50 | -- | -- | 32.50 | 35.00 |
| Good | | 30.60 | 32.50 | 26.25 | 29.70 | 24.20 | 28.50 | -- | -- | 29.50 | 32.00 |
| Standard | | 26.30 | 28.50 | 22.50 | 26.70 | 20.90 | 26.00 | -- | -- | 25.00 | 27.50 |
| Feeder and stocker cattle and calves | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice | 500-800# | 28.50 | 31.00 | 28.50 | 30.85 | 27.20 | 31.00 | 26.00 | 30.00 | 25.25 | 28.75 |
| Good | 500-800 | 25.90 | 27.70 | 25.50 | 27.62 | 24.55 | 26.62 | 24.00 | 27.00 | 23.50 | 26.75 |
| Medium | 500-1000 | 22.55 | 25.00 | 21.50 | 24.80 | 20.65 | 23.62 | 21.00 | 23.50 | 20.50 | 23.75 |
| Heifers - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice | 500-750# | -- | -- | 24.25 | 27.75 | 24.50 | 27.75 | 24.00 | 26.25 | 23.75 | 27.25 |
| Med. & Gd. | 500-750 | -- | -- | 20.75 | 24.50 | 21.50 | 23.75 | 21.50 | 24.00 | 20.50 | 24.25 |
| Cows - All wts. - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Med. & Gd. | | -- | -- | 17.00 | 19.25 | 15.08 | 18.75 | 16.75 | 18.50 | 15.75 | -- |
| Calves - 300-500# - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Good & Choice | | -- | -- | 30.50 | 33.50 | 30.00 | 34.50 | 30.00 | 35.50 | 28.00 | 31.00 |
| Heifers - | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Good & Choice | | -- | -- | 27.25 | 31.00 | 27.00 | 32.25 | 27.50 | 32.50 | 25.50 | 28.50 |
| *Weight range 600-800# in 1959. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ** " " 700-900# " " | | | | | | | | | | | |

CATTLE: MONTHLY AVERAGE PRICES
In dollars per 100 pounds

| Classification | Chicago | | Kansas City | | Omaha | | Denver | | North Portland | |
|---|-----------|--------|-------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. | Feb. |
| | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 |
| <u>Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 900-1100# | 28.51 | 30.75 | -- | -- | 27.99 | 29.85 | -- | -- | -- |
| | 1100-1300 | 28.54 | 30.92 | -- | -- | 27.79 | 29.66 | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice | 900-1100 | 27.23 | 28.68 | 26.26 | 27.67 | 26.58 | 28.02 | 26.06 | 26.95 | 26.47 |
| | 1100-1300 | 26.75 | 28.30 | 26.14 | 27.20 | 26.12 | 27.67 | 25.65 | 26.93 | 25.79 |
| Good | 900-1100 | 24.72 | 26.20 | 23.98 | 25.44 | 23.58 | 25.33 | 22.63 | 24.52 | 24.75 |
| Standard - All wts. | | 21.70 | 24.32 | 21.08 | 22.84 | 20.10 | 23.16 | 18.96 | 21.59 | 22.12 |
| Heifers - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice* | 700-900# | 26.54 | 27.95 | 25.63 | 27.58 | 26.32 | 27.39 | 25.73 | 26.55 | 24.34 |
| Good** | 600-800 | -- | 25.62 | 23.32 | 25.15 | 23.44 | 24.59 | 22.58 | 24.45 | 23.00 |
| Standard - All wts. | | 20.50 | 23.11 | 20.33 | 22.49 | 19.78 | 22.15 | 19.00 | 21.68 | 20.69 |
| Cows - All weights - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Commercial | | 15.95 | 20.11 | 16.68 | 19.73 | 16.05 | 19.47 | 17.57 | 20.66 | 17.71 |
| Utility | | 15.48 | 18.86 | 15.49 | 18.40 | 15.14 | 18.20 | 16.23 | 19.41 | 15.89 |
| Cutter | | 15.05) | | 14.78) | | 13.99) | | 14.55) | | 13.17) |
| Canner | | 13.60) | 17.27 | 13.52) | 15.92 | 13.14) | 16.35 | 13.47) | 17.06 | 10.81) |
| Bulls - All weights - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Commercial | | 21.33 | 24.89 | 19.06 | 22.79 | 19.25 | 22.59 | -- | 22.50 | 20.81 |
| Utility | | 20.40 | 23.28 | 18.74 | 21.96 | 18.63 | 21.25 | 19.69 | 23.00 | 21.44 |
| Calves - 500# down - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice | | -- | -- | 25.46 | 28.38 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 28.50 |
| Good | | -- | -- | 23.50 | 26.56 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 25.62 |
| Standard | | -- | -- | 20.38 | 24.88 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 22.50 |
| Vealers - All wts. - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice | | 30.95 | -- | 28.78 | 33.85 | 25.63 | 31.25 | -- | -- | 31.72 |
| Good | | 29.40 | 34.45 | 26.00 | 31.18 | 23.75 | 28.50 | -- | -- | 29.28 |
| Standard | | 25.48 | 29.70 | 22.25 | 27.88 | 20.75 | 26.00 | -- | -- | 25.00 |
| <u>Feeder and stocker cattle and calves</u> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice | 500-800# | 27.75 | 31.25 | 26.94 | 30.51 | 26.88 | 30.78 | 26.00 | 30.38 | 24.81 |
| Good | 500-800 | 25.31 | 27.82 | 24.59 | 27.13 | 24.25 | 26.81 | 24.00 | 27.38 | 23.50 |
| Medium | 500-1000 | 21.81 | 25.30 | 20.88 | 24.40 | 20.25 | 23.68 | 21.00 | 23.75 | 20.25 |
| Heifers - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice | 500-750# | -- | -- | 24.06 | 27.62 | 24.44 | 27.81 | 23.62 | 26.56 | 23.50 |
| Med. & Gd. | 500-750 | -- | -- | 19.94 | 24.39 | 21.50 | 23.81 | 21.25 | 24.44 | 20.25 |
| Cows - All wts. - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Med. & Gd. | | -- | -- | 16.12 | 19.25 | 14.00 | 19.87 | 16.00 | 19.31 | 15.06 |
| Calves - 300-500# - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Steers - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Good & Choice | | -- | -- | 29.28 | 33.50 | 29.94 | 35.50 | 30.00 | 37.00 | 26.88 |
| Heifers - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Good & Choice | | -- | -- | 26.40 | 30.56 | 27.00 | 32.68 | 27.40 | 33.69 | 25.06 |

*Weight range 600-800# in 1959.

** " " 700-900# " "

HOGS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

| Classification | Chicago | Interior | St. Louis | Iowa and National | Omaha | Indianapolis | St. Joseph | Kansas City | Peoria |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|-----------|-------------------|--------|--------------|------------|-------------|--------|
| | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 |
| Barrows and gilts | 1959 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 |
| U. S. No. 1 & 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| 180-200# | 14.45 | 15.78 | 14.94 | 16.04 | 14.42 | 16.12 | 15.04 | 16.18 | 14.90 |
| 200-220 | 14.98 | 16.12 | 14.95 | 16.02 | 15.32 | 16.22 | 15.09 | 16.20 | 15.18 |
| 220-240 | 14.92 | 15.99 | 14.95 | 15.84 | 15.32 | 16.22 | 15.02 | 15.96 | 15.21 |
| U. S. No. 2 & 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 200-220 | 14.63 | 15.85 | 14.68 | 15.68 | 14.70 | 15.80 | 14.78 | 15.58 | 14.76 |
| 220-240 | 14.60 | 15.74 | 14.56 | 15.52 | 14.70 | 15.75 | 14.72 | 15.58 | 14.76 |
| 240-270 | 14.44 | 15.62 | 14.19 | 15.08 | 14.52 | 15.32 | 14.51 | 15.12 | 14.60 |
| U. S. No. 1, 2 & 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 180-200 | 14.22 | 15.75 | 14.75 | 14.80 | 15.90 | 14.15 | 15.85 | 14.78 | 15.84 |
| 200-220 | 14.83 | 16.06 | 14.42 | 15.25 | 14.80 | 15.80 | 15.00 | 14.88 | 15.87 |
| 220-240 | 14.76 | 15.92 | 14.40 | 15.10 | 14.68 | 15.68 | 15.00 | 14.84 | 15.83 |
| 240-270 | 14.57 | 15.75 | 13.83 | 14.79 | 14.34 | 15.22 | 14.68 | 15.62 | 14.58 |
| Sows - U.S. 1, 2 & 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 270-330 | 12.92 | 13.88 | 12.55 | 13.66 | 12.98 | 13.92 | 13.50 | 14.20 | 13.08 |
| 330-400 | 12.40 | 13.05 | 11.68 | 12.91 | 12.58 | 13.48 | 13.18 | 13.72 | 12.82 |
| 400-550 | | | | | | | | | |
| South | | | | | | | | | |
| St. Paul | | | | | | | | | |
| Sioux City | | | | | | | | | |
| Sioux Falls | | | | | | | | | |
| Cincinnati | | | | | | | | | |
| Fort Worth | | | | | | | | | |
| Thomasville | | | | | | | | | |
| Baltimore | | | | | | | | | |
| North | | | | | | | | | |
| Portland | | | | | | | | | |
| U. S. No. 1 & 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| 180-200# | 14.75 | 15.92 | 14.51 | 16.02 | 14.73 | 15.96 | 14.00 | 15.80 | 15.85 |
| 200-220 | 15.12 | 16.00 | 15.20 | 16.21 | 14.84 | 15.80 | 14.91 | 15.98 | 15.58 |
| 220-240 | 15.12 | 15.88 | 15.14 | 16.08 | 14.84 | 15.70 | 14.79 | 15.65 | 15.80 |
| U. S. No. 2 & 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 200-220 | 14.62 | 15.18 | 14.96 | 15.78 | 14.50 | 15.52 | 14.78 | 15.86 | 14.34 |
| 220-240 | 14.62 | 15.08 | 14.94 | 15.74 | 14.50 | 15.42 | 14.68 | 15.64 | 14.34 |
| 240-270 | 14.42 | 14.82 | 14.70 | 15.32 | 14.30 | 15.05 | 14.38 | 15.02 | 13.94 |
| U. S. No. 1, 2 & 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 180-200 | 14.60 | 15.05 | 14.48 | 15.88 | 14.66 | 15.89 | 14.50 | 15.21 | 15.50 |
| 200-220 | 14.70 | 15.30 | 15.00 | 15.92 | 14.75 | 15.62 | 14.78 | 15.86 | 14.50 |
| 220-240 | 14.70 | 15.18 | 14.98 | 15.88 | 14.75 | 15.48 | 14.68 | 15.64 | 14.41 |
| 240-270 | 14.83 | 15.48 | 14.72 | 15.48 | 14.34 | 15.08 | 14.16 | 15.02 | 13.94 |
| Sows - U.S. 1, 2 & 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 270-330 | 13.22 | 14.08 | 13.88 | 14.31 | 12.85 | 13.90 | 13.02 | 13.72 | 12.12 |
| 330-400 | 13.10 | 13.68 | 13.28 | 14.05 | 12.70 | 13.65 | 12.68 | 13.55 | 11.38 |
| 400-550 | 12.72 | 13.12 | 12.95 | 13.58 | 12.42 | 13.05 | 12.05 | 13.05 | 10.81 |
| Feeder pigs - All wts | | | | | | | | | |
| Good and Choice | 12.30 | 14.25 | | | | | | | |

HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

| Week ended | | Chi- cago | St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards | Kan- sas City | Omaha | Sioux City | S. St. Joseph | S. St. Paul | Indian- apolis | 8- mkts. com- bined |
|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------|---|---------------------|-------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| AVERAGE COST - | | Dollars per 100 pounds | | | | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts | Mar. 5, 1960 | 14.52 | 14.30 | 14.58 | 14.63 | 14.62 | 14.63 | 14.45 | 14.68 | 14.52 |
| | Feb. 27, 1960 | 13.99 | 14.07 | 14.34 | 14.26 | 14.12 | 14.27 | 13.65 | 14.16 | 14.05 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 15.63 | 15.38 | 15.55 | 15.43 | 15.34 | 15.66 | 15.14 | 15.68 | 15.43 |
| Sows | Mar. 5, 1960 | 12.43 | 12.73 | 13.01 | 13.09 | 12.93 | 12.91 | 12.77 | 12.63 | 12.80 |
| | Feb. 27, 1960 | 11.71 | 12.37 | 12.59 | 12.68 | 12.61 | 12.61 | 12.16 | 11.89 | 12.29 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 13.20 | 13.51 | 13.80 | 13.64 | 13.57 | 13.77 | 13.24 | 13.49 | 13.48 |
| AVERAGE WEIGHT - | | Pounds | | | | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts | Mar. 5, 1960 | 230 | 215 | 225 | 237 | 239 | 225 | 230 | 223 | 227 |
| | Feb. 27, 1960 | 230 | 215 | 223 | 235 | 239 | 223 | 228 | 223 | 226 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 230 | 219 | 228 | 238 | 242 | 226 | 230 | 221 | 229 |
| Sows | Mar. 5, 1960 | 447 | 393 | 417 | 430 | 436 | 401 | 419 | 437 | 423 |
| | Feb. 27, 1960 | 445 | 396 | 425 | 431 | 437 | 394 | 418 | 440 | 424 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 437 | 416 | 430 | 427 | 435 | 404 | 412 | 411 | 422 |
| NUMBER OF HEAD - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts | Mar. 5, 1960 | 27299 | 52284 | 13412 | 34810 | 27101 | 20543 | 38413 | 26143 | 240005 |
| | Feb. 27, 1960 | 24526 | 49971 | 11970 | 34037 | 29428 | 21584 | 49343 | 31486 | 252345 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 30076 | 60069 | 13823 | 33278 | 35659 | 22956 | 48800 | 33513 | 278174 |
| Sows | Mar. 5, 1960 | 2540 | 2972 | 641 | 3650 | 1937 | 1315 | 2486 | 1969 | 17510 |
| | Feb. 27, 1960 | 2584 | 3066 | 767 | 3527 | 2252 | 1300 | 2691 | 2453 | 18640 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 3010 | 4184 | 844 | 3542 | 2462 | 1387 | 3456 | 1464 | 20349 |
| SOWS | | Percentage of total | | | | | | | | |
| | | Mar. 5, 1960 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 7 |
| | | Feb. 27, 1960 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 7 |
| | | Mar. 7, 1959 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 |

1/ Weighted average.

WEEKLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

| | Hog products 1/ | Hog prices 2/ | Gross spread or margin 3/ |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Mar. 5, 1960 | \$16.54 | \$14.83 | \$1.71 |
| Feb. 27, 1960 | 16.16 | 14.45 | 1.71 |
| Mar. 7, 1959 | 17.66 | 16.06 | 1.60 |

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U. S. No. 1, 2 and 3 hogs, 200-220# wt. Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices.

HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

| Week ended | Barrows and gilts Dollars per 100 pounds | Corn, 1/ No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel | Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts |
|---------------|---|--|--|
| Mar. 5, 1960 | 14.52 | 112.6 | 12.9 |
| Feb. 27, 1960 | 13.99 | 110.8 | 12.6 |
| Mar. 7, 1959 | 15.63 | 118.3 | 13.2 |

1/ Simple average price.

HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

| Month | | Chi- cago | St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards | Kan- sas City | Omaha | Sioux City | S. St. Joseph | S. St. Paul | Indian- apolis | 8- mkts. com- bined |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------|---|---------------------|--------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| AVERAGE COST - | | Dollars per 100 pounds | | | | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts | Feb. 1960 | 13.53 | 13.56 | 13.67 | 13.62 | 13.55 | 13.70 | 13.31 | 13.76 | 13.56 |
| | Jan. 1960 | 12.52 | 12.77 | 12.73 | 12.63 | 12.56 | 12.73 | 12.52 | 12.86 | 12.65 |
| | Feb. 1959 | 15.62 | 15.74 | 15.86 | 15.65 | 15.46 | 15.79 | 15.45 | 15.73 | 15.63 |
| | Feb. 1960 | 11.36 | 11.80 | 11.90 | 11.96 | 11.89 | 12.01 | 11.62 | 11.44 | 11.72 |
| Sows | Jan. 1960 | 10.09 | 10.47 | 10.07 | 10.42 | 10.69 | 10.32 | 10.14 | 9.96 | 10.30 |
| | Feb. 1959 | 13.56 | 13.75 | 13.90 | 13.56 | 13.67 | 13.92 | 13.45 | 13.41 | 13.61 |
| AVERAGE WEIGHT - | | Pounds | | | | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts | Feb. 1960 | 232 | 216 | 226 | 237 | 240 | 223 | 229 | 223 | 228 |
| | Jan. 1960 | 236 | 222 | 232 | 241 | 244 | 227 | 231 | 228 | 232 |
| | Feb. 1959 | 236 | 221 | 226 | 243 | 247 | 229 | 231 | 222 | 232 |
| Sows | Feb. 1960 | 451 | 402 | 427 | 434 | 440 | 394 | 421 | 430 | 426 |
| | Jan. 1960 | 452 | 405 | 432 | 440 | 445 | 416 | 418 | 438 | 429 |
| | Feb. 1959 | 438 | 404 | 428 | 434 | 433 | 398 | 414 | 446 | 425 |
| NUMBER OF HEAD - | | | | | | | | | | |
| Barrows and gilts | Feb. 1960 | 119101 | 237230 | 61004 | 164259 | 137653 | 93844 | 202255 | 139119 | 1154465 |
| | Jan. 1960 | 151611 | 314149 | 65745 | 205098 | 193224 | 113354 | 229727 | 144904 | 1417812 |
| | Feb. 1959 | 148789 | 213373 | 54340 | 160314 | 154723 | 91604 | 201681 | 159112 | 1183936 |
| Sows | Feb. 1960 | 12987 | 16100 | 3266 | 16718 | 9519 | 5718 | 10929 | 11021 | 86258 |
| | Jan. 1960 | 17349 | 24938 | 4231 | 19203 | 13334 | 9015 | 15217 | 13047 | 116334 |
| | Feb. 1959 | 13601 | 15289 | 3334 | 15568 | 10742 | 5951 | 13627 | 8682 | 86794 |
| SOWS | | Percentage of total | | | | | | | | |
| | Feb. 1960 | 10 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 7 |
| | Jan. 1960 | 10 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 8 |
| | Feb. 1959 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 7 |

1/ Weighted average.

MONTHLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

| | Hog products 1/ | Hog prices 2/ | Gross spread or margin 3/ |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Feb. 1960 | \$15.75 | \$13.95 | \$1.80 |
| Jan. 1960 | 15.34 | 13.09 | 2.25 |
| Feb. 1959 | 18.09 | 16.15 | 1.94 |

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U. S. No. 1, 2 and 3 hogs, 200-220# wt. Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices.

HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

| MONTHLY | Barrows and gilts Dollars per 1/ 100 pounds | Corn, 1/ No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel | Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts |
|-----------|--|--|--|
| Feb. 1960 | 13.53 | 110.9 | 12.2 |
| Jan. 1960 | 12.52 | 114.4 | 10.9 |
| Feb. 1959 | 15.62 | 117.9 | 13.2 |

1/ Weighted average.

WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEWS

LESS THAN CARLOT MEAT TRADE REVIEWS

EASTERN SEABOARD - Trading was moderately active through Wednesday at eastern seaboard markets but the heaviest snowfall this winter virtually crippled the movement on closing sessions. This condition was largely responsible for incomplete clearance at Washington and New York, involving small lots of freshly unloaded meats. Buyers for retail outlets were uncertain of consumer activity for weekend business, therefore, late week purchases were sharply curtailed. Receipts of most classes were generally small at Boston except pork normal, while unloads at New York and Philadelphia were cut-back slightly in all divisions, but normal supplies were offered at Washington and Baltimore. Despite aforementioned conditions, and usual dullness affiliated with start of the Lenten season, prices on most wholesale meats showed some advance.

Compared with the week previous: Steer beef steady to \$2.00 higher, bulk strong to \$1.00 higher. Cow beef sold strong to \$2.00 higher. Prices for veal and calf were mostly unchanged at all markets except New York, where Prime veal and calf carcasses sold strong and other grades advanced \$1.00-2.00. Lamb prices were steady at Boston and steady to \$2.00 higher at other markets. Pork loins sold steady at Boston, steady to strong, instances \$2.00 higher at Baltimore, with late sales at Washington \$2.00 higher despite unevenness during the week. Pork loins closed \$1.00 lower at Philadelphia and \$1.00-2.50 lower at New York. Other pork cuts sold steady to \$2.00 higher, with most upturn on spareribs and particularly fresh skinned hams which advanced \$2.00 at New York. Kasher dressed beef and lamb sold mostly \$1.00 higher, while prices for kosher veal and calf were fully steady to strong.

CHICAGO - Supplies all classes fresh meat moderate with receipts of veal somewhat above recent weeks. Most beef graded Good and Choice and bulk of the lamb weighed 55-65#. Trading was moderately active on beef and prices advanced early but these upturns were partly erased late when outlet narrowed. Trading was generally active for beef ribs and loins and demand was good at the close for chucks and rounds. Veal trade was slow with Standard and Good carcasses 80# and down hardest to sell. Lamb 35-55# moved best in a moderately active trade, but all weights advanced for the fourth straight week. Lamb stews and shoulders cleared into most channels, while hindsaddles particularly those from the heavier lambs were slow. Fresh

pork cuts slow, loins working lower through mid-week, but declines were recovered later when product sold higher for shipment into next week.

Compared to the previous Friday: Steer and heifer beef steady to \$1.00 higher, cow beef mostly 50¢ higher, veal unchanged, lamb \$1.00-1.50 higher, pork loins 8-16# \$1.00-1.50 higher, Boston butts 4-8# steady, spareribs steady to 50¢ higher.

PACIFIC COAST - Choice steer beef supplies were moderate but fully adequate for trade requirements while other steer beef was somewhat more plentiful with slight accumulations. In general clearance was fairly good even though trading was rather dull due to the beginning of Lent and the approaching California tax day. Cow beef was in small supply and barely adequate for a fairly good demand while calf was fully adequate in California and veal fully adequate in the Pacific Northwest. Lamb was rather limited in the Pacific Northwest but fully adequate in California. Fresh and cured pork was generally adequate to instances excessive for a fair demand.

Prices compared with the previous week's close: Most all beef steady to \$1.00 higher; calf and veal mostly steady, some sales \$1.00 higher in the Pacific Northwest; lamb steady to \$1.00 higher; fresh pork steady to \$2.00 higher with most advance on loins and spareribs; smoked skinned hams and sliced bacon steady to \$2.00 higher; other smoked meats and lard about steady.

CARLOT MEAT TRADE REVIEWS

Moderately active trading prevailed for the most part and prices were generally higher even though trends were uneven from day to day and varied somewhat from market to market. Steer beef closed steady to \$1.00 higher for the week at Chicago and New York, 50¢- \$1.00 higher at Denver and Philadelphia and strong to 50¢ higher at Omaha with instances \$1.00 up on 800-900# carcasses. Heifer beef sold steady to \$1.00 higher at Chicago, strong to 50¢ higher at Omaha and steady at Denver. The trend on cow beef was generally 50¢- \$1.00 higher. Lamb carcasses advanced \$1.00-2.00 with some sales \$3.00 higher at Philadelphia. Pork loins sold \$1.00-1.50 higher for the week at Chicago where late upturns more than offset early declines. Sales of pork loins were fully steady at Omaha but declined \$1.00-2.00 at New York.

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES - LESS THAN CARLOT BASIS
Weekly average of daily quotations in dollars per 100 pounds

| Classification | | New York | | Chicago | | San Francisco | | Los Angeles | |
|---|----------|----------|--------|---------|--------|---------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| | | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 | Mar. 5 | Mar. 7 |
| | | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 |
| Steer beef - | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 700-800# | 48.00 | 50.50 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice | 600-700 | 47.50 | 48.75 | 45.56 | 46.50 | 44.12 | 44.88 | 43.47 | 46.00 |
| | 700-800 | 46.25 | 47.75 | 44.25 | 45.00 | 42.62 | 43.12 | 41.62 | 44.31 |
| Good | 500-600 | 44.00 | 45.00 | 42.25 | 43.25 | 43.50 | 44.50 | 42.25 | 44.00 |
| | 600-700 | 44.50 | 45.50 | 42.25 | 43.25 | 41.50 | 43.50 | 40.12 | 42.00 |
| Heifer beef - | | | | | | | | | |
| Choice | 500-600# | -- | -- | 44.50 | -- | 43.50 | -- | 43.06 | -- |
| | 600-700 | -- | -- | 44.00 | -- | 42.50 | -- | 41.50 | -- |
| Good | 500-600 | -- | -- | 41.12 | -- | -- | -- | 41.25 | -- |
| Veal - | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 90-120# | 64.50 | 63.00 | 58.50 | 57.25 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice | 90-120 | 55.50 | 53.60 | 53.50 | 50.62 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Good | 90-120 | 50.00 | 49.10 | 50.00 | 48.44 | 55.00 | 55.00 | -- | -- |
| Lamb - | | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | 45-55# | 45.00 | 43.00 | -- | 41.00 | 44.50 | -- | 43.00 | 40.00 |
| Choice | 45-55 | 43.50 | 42.70 | 43.50 | 40.00 | 44.50 | 41.00 | 43.00 | 40.00 |
| Fresh pork - | | | | | | | | | |
| Loins | 8-12# | 43.30 | 41.50 | 40.50 | 38.15 | 46.50 | 44.00 | 43.50 | 41.50 |
| Butts | 4-8 | 33.50 | 35.50 | 29.50 | 30.70 | 36.00 | 40.00 | 35.00 | 34.50 |
| Spareribs | 3# down | 39.45 | 40.20 | 35.50 | 36.19 | 43.00 | 45.00 | 39.00 | 40.00 |
| Cured pork - | | | | | | | | | |
| Hams, smk. skd. -(Cook before eating) | 12-16# | 42.00 | 48.50 | 50.50 | 50.50 | 50.00 | 54.00 | 47.00 | 50.50 |
| Bacon, smoked, sliced - 1# package (box lots) | | 38.00 | 44.00 | 43.25 | 48.25 | 43.00 | 49.00 | 43.75 | 49.50 |
| Picnics, smoked -(Cook before eating) | 4-8# | 29.50 | 32.00 | 33.50 | 34.12 | 30.00 | 33.50 | 31.00 | 36.00 |
| Lard, 1# carton | | 11.88 | 13.50 | 12.25 | 13.50 | 15.50 | 17.00 | 14.50 | 15.25 |

BULK PRICES - CARLOT BASIS - WEEK ENDED MARCH 4, 1960

| Classification | | Prices paid F.O.B. | | | Prices delivered | |
|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|
| | | Chicago | Denver | Omaha | New York | Philadelphia |
| Steer beef - | | | | | | |
| Choice | 600-700# | 44.00-45.00 | 43.00-43.50 | 43.75 | 46.00-47.00 | 46.00-46.50 |
| | 700-800 | 43.00-44.00 | 42.00-42.50 | 42.75 | 45.00-45.50 | 45.00-46.00 |
| | 800-900 | 42.00-42.50 | 41.00-42.00 | 41.50-41.75 | 43.25-44.50 | 44.00-44.50 |
| Good | 500-600 | 40.50-41.50 | -- | -- | 43.50-44.00 | 43.00-43.50 |
| | 600-700 | 40.50-41.50 | 39.00-41.50 | 40.25-41.00 | 42.00-44.00 | 42.50-43.50 |
| | 700-800 | 40.00-41.00 | 36.00-40.50 | 40.00-40.25 | 42.50-43.50 | 42.00-43.00 |
| Heifer beef - | | | | | | |
| Choice | 500-600# | 43.00-43.50 | 41.75-43.50 | 42.00-42.50 | -- | -- |
| | 600-700 | 42.50-43.00 | 41.00-41.75 | 41.75-42.00 | -- | 45.00-46.00 |
| Good | 500-600 | 39.50-40.00 | -- | 38.50-39.00 | -- | -- |
| | 600-700 | 39.50-40.00 | -- | 38.50 | -- | -- |
| Cow beef - All weights - | | | | | | |
| Utility | | 31.50-32.00 | 31.00-32.00 | 30.50-31.00 | 33.50-34.00 | 34.00-34.50 |
| Canner and Cutter | | 32.00-32.50 | -- | 31.00 | -- | 33.50-34.00 |
| Lamb - | | | | | | |
| Prime | 35-45# | -- | 39.50-41.00 | -- | -- | 44.00-46.00 |
| | 45-55 | -- | 39.50-41.00 | -- | -- | 43.00-45.00 |
| | 55-65 | -- | 37.75-39.50 | -- | -- | 42.00-43.00 |
| Choice | 35-45 | 43.00-44.00 | 39.50-41.00 | 42.25-43.25 | 44.00-46.00 | 43.00-45.00 |
| | 45-55 | 42.00-42.50 | 39.50-41.00 | 40.75-41.25 | 43.50-44.50 | 42.00-44.00 |
| | 55-65 | 40.00-41.00 | 37.75-38.75 | 39.25 | 42.00-43.00 | 41.50-42.50 |
| Fresh pork - | | | | | | |
| Loins | 8-12# | 38.50-39.00 | -- | 38.50-39.00 | 39.00-39.50 | 37.50-38.50 |

BOSTON WOOL MARKET REVIEW

Trading generally slow at steady prices, however, demand was fair for medium fleeces and trading was moderately active in woolen wools and noils at higher prices. Trading was very limited at domestic primary markets due to snow, ice and cold.

Prices advanced at Dominion markets with Argentine wools 2¢ higher and Uruguayan wools 1-2¢ up.

Crop Reporting Board announced shorn and pulled wool production totaled 292 million pounds, grease, 1959, 7 percent above 1958, 9 percent above 10-year average. Shorn wool production in 1959 was 257 million pounds, pulled 34.5 million. Value of shorn 1959, \$110 million, 1958 was \$88 million.

The 1959 production of mohair amounted to 24,180,000 pounds, 16 percent greater than 1958, 62 percent larger than the 10-year average. Value of 1959 mohair production \$22,859,000, an increase of 52 percent compared to 1958.

Fleece Wools - Dealers paying 48-50¢ grease for medium wools in Indiana; 50-54¢, but mostly 50¢ in Ohio for medium wools, other fleece States at standstill due to snowfall.

Territory Wools - Turnover was dormant. Bulk fine, some half-blood, Good French and staple in Arizona 40-41¢ to grower, estimated clean \$1.06-1.09, delivered. Original bag mixed ewes wool in Northern Wyoming 39-42¢.

Texas Wools - Range sales were at a standstill due to weather.

Mohair - Shearing was halted. Prices unchanged at \$1.01½ for adult hair and \$1.31½ for kid hair to warehouse; buyers were offering 96½¢ and \$1.26½. Severe losses in goats due to ice storm and cold.

SHEEP AND LAMBS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS In dollars per 100 pounds

| Classification | | Chicago | Omaha | Kansas City | Fort Worth | Denver | Ogden | North Port-land |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------|-------|-------------|------------|--------|-------|-----------------|
| SLAUGHTER LAMBS: (Wooled) - All wts. | | | | | | | | |
| Prime | Mar. 5, 1960 | 22.62 | 22.12 | 21.50 | 19.38 | 21.78 | 21.12 | 22.21 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Choice | Mar. 5, 1960 | 22.18 | 21.62 | 20.50 | 19.00 | 21.19 | 20.75 | 21.83 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 20.15 | 19.22 | 19.00 | 18.20* | 19.35 | 18.00 | 19.38* |
| Good | Mar. 5, 1960 | 21.55 | 20.85 | 19.50 | 18.75 | 20.47 | 19.75 | 21.08 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 20.02 | 18.60 | 18.38 | 17.55* | 18.40 | 17.38 | 18.50* |
| EWES (Wooled) - All wts. | | | | | | | | |
| Good and Choice | Mar. 5, 1960 | 7.25 | 6.50 | 6.50 | -- | 7.44 | 6.25 | 7.75 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 7.25 | 8.12 | 6.88 | -- | 8.25 | 6.75 | 8.25 |
| Cull and Utility | Mar. 5, 1960 | 6.38 | 5.00 | 5.50 | 7.25* | 5.59 | 4.25 | 5.75 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | 6.50 | 6.25 | 5.12 | -- | 5.88 | 4.25 | 5.75 |
| FEEDER LAMBS - All wts. | | | | | | | | |
| Good and Choice | Mar. 5, 1960 | -- | 19.25 | -- | 18.00 | 20.44 | -- | 18.25 |
| | Mar. 7, 1959 | -- | 19.42 | -- | 17.25 | 18.88 | -- | 16.00 |

* Shorn basis.

MEAT AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTED WHEN OFFERED FOR IMPORTATION
(USDA - ARS - Meat Inspection Division)
JANUARY 1960

| Country of origin | Fresh meats and edible offal | | | Cured meats | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| | Beef and Veal | Lamb and Mutton | Pork | Beef | Pork | | |
| | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | | |
| Argentina | -- | -- | -- | 163,775 | -- | | |
| Australia | 11,297,771 | 4,645,808 | 29,052 | -- | -- | | |
| Brazil | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | | |
| Canada | 1,089,935 | 8,617 | 3,830,799 | 391 | 556,453 | | |
| Denmark | -- | -- | -- | -- | 19,629 | | |
| Germany | -- | -- | -- | -- | 6,580 | | |
| Holland | -- | -- | -- | -- | 15,861 | | |
| Ireland | 8,128,630 | -- | -- | -- | 10,864 | | |
| Mexico | 4,386,543 | -- | -- | -- | -- | | |
| New Zealand | 10,349,832 | 905,500 | 25,802 | 1,166 | -- | | |
| Paraguay | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | | |
| Poland | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | | |
| Uruguay | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | | |
| All others | 4,004,411 | -- | 5,615 | 26,500 | 3,329 | | |
| Total - January 1960 | 39,257,122 | 5,559,925 | 3,891,268 | 191,832 | 612,716 | | |
| January 1959 | 33,741,444 | 4,598,287 | 4,512,985 | 14,952,005 | 781,846 | | |
| Refused or condemned: | | | | | | | |
| January 1960 | 324,125 | -- | -- | -- | -- | | |
| January 1959 | 198,355 | 347,675 | 1,015 | 245,694 | 83 | | |
| ===== | | | | | | | |
| Country of origin | Canned meats | | | Cooked beef | Sausage (Trichina treated) | General miscel- laneous | Total |
| | Beef | Pork | Misc'l. | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds |
| | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds | Pounds |
| Argentina | 5,867,143 | 104,535 | 10,464 | 248,580 | -- | 118,112 | 6,512,609 |
| Australia | 75,384 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 16,048,015 |
| Brazil | 1,557,554 | -- | -- | 1,500 | -- | 32,960 | 1,592,014 |
| Canada | 15,329 | 453,372 | 6,321 | 120 | 3,989 | 399,925 | 6,365,251 |
| Denmark | 23,710 | 3,609,471 | 275,495 | -- | 257,420 | -- | 4,185,725 |
| Germany | -- | 288,947 | 677 | -- | 6,993 | -- | 303,197 |
| Holland | -- | 3,915,534 | 143,008 | -- | 8,354 | -- | 4,082,757 |
| Ireland | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 8,139,494 |
| Mexico | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 4,386,543 |
| New Zealand | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 11,282,300 |
| Paraguay | 506,149 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 506,149 |
| Poland | -- | 2,208,722 | 443,368 | -- | -- | 1,323 | 2,653,413 |
| Uruguay | 357,425 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 5,600 | 363,025 |
| All others | 1,804 | 28,678 | 45,364 | -- | 41,434 | 11,641 | 4,168,776 |
| Total - January 1960 | 8,404,498 | 10,609,259 | 924,697 | 250,200 | 318,190 | 569,561 | 70,589,268 |
| January 1959 | 7,302,458 | 10,491,069 | 1,708,752 | -- | 61,040 | 727,844 | 78,877,730 |
| Refused or condemned: | | | | | | | |
| January 1960 | 7,549 | 16,216 | 516 | -- | -- | -- | 348,406 |
| January 1959 | 440 | 9,571 | 2,180 | -- | 834 | -- | 805,827 |

Note: In addition to the above, January 1960 imports included 17,920 pounds of horse meat from Mexico.

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THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, March 3, 1960

Summary

Probable trends in meat animal production during 1960 are fairly well outlined by recent inventory and intention reports from farmers. Beginning inventories for cattle, hogs and sheep are each larger than a year earlier. Increases in the number of cows and ewes on hand will undoubtedly lead to larger calf and lamb crops. But the decline in sows and the intentions of producers foretell a smaller spring pig crop. Liberal feed supplies for the 1959-60 feeding season are assured by record levels of feed grains and other concentrates. Hay stocks on January 1, though 12 percent below a year earlier, were 9 percent above average.

Cattle numbers totaled 101.5 million head on January 1, the first time in 93 years of records that January numbers exceeded 100 million. Cattle numbers increased 5 percent during 1959, hog numbers 3 percent and sheep numbers 2 percent. The composite index of meat animals rose 4 points to 120 percent (1947-49 = 100), one percent above the previous high on January 1, 1944.

Most of the increase in cattle numbers in 1959 was in beef cattle, though numbers of milk cattle showed a small gain, the first in 6 years. All classes of beef cattle shared in the increase and gains in numbers occurred in all sections of the country. Regional increases ranged from 3 percent in the North Atlantic and East North Central Regions to 7 percent in the South Central.

Compared with a year earlier, total hog numbers increased in all regions of the country. The number of pigs under 6 months old, up 3 percent from a year earlier, was in line with the larger 1959 fall crop. The number of sows and gilts was down 11 percent, reflecting farmers' intentions to reduce 1960 spring farrowings. The number of other hogs over 6 months of age was up 16 percent from a year earlier. Slaughter supplies during the first part of the year will be greater than a year earlier but reduction in sows and gilts of breeding age will result in a smaller spring pig crop for market this summer and fall.

The total number of sheep and lambs on farms and ranches increased 2 percent during 1959 to total 33.6 million head on January 1, 1960. This is the largest inventory since January 1, 1948, but smaller than any year from 1948 back to 1867, the first year of record. Approximately 4.1 million head were sheep and lambs on feed for market, 7 percent fewer than a year earlier.

Although fluctuating seasonally, cattle prices probably will trend slowly downward during the year, in contrast to significant improvement in hog prices. For the year as a whole, sheep and lamb prices are not expected to average greatly different from 1959.

Production of meat this year is forecast at 27.8 billion pounds, slightly more than in 1959. However, because meat imports will probably not be as large as last year and, with population growing, per capita consumption may be about a pound below the 159.6 pounds for 1959. Retail beef prices will probably average close to 1959 levels. Pork prices, now below a year earlier, will probably rise above 1959 levels this spring and for the year will average somewhat higher than last year.